THE LORD COKE HIS SPEECH AND Charge.

With a Diſcouerie of the Abuſes and Corruption of Officers.

BIBL. CANT. ACAD.

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TO THE RIGHT Honourable the Earle of Exceter,

Kinght of the moſt Honorable order of the Garter: and one of the Lordes of his Majeſties moſt Honorable priuie Counſel.

R. P. wiſheth all encreaſe of Honor and endleſſe happineſſe.

MAy it pleaſe your Hon. The obſeruation which this world begets, may teach experience truly to report, that *Loue* and *Charity* are for the moſt part growne ſo cold, euen in the hoteſt Sun-ſhine of our *Profeßion*, as that deſpiſed *Pouertie*, though addicted to the *Religious exerciſe* of endeuors cõmendable, is in the beſt employment (vvhich ſeemes v. ith greateſt *Fauor* to *ſmile* vpon his *Hope*) ſo coldly recompenced, as that *poore vnpitied deiected miſerable Pouertie* knowes neither *Meanes* nor *Place* how or vvhere to warme it ſelfe.

Vn-

Vnhappie I, in this best time of greatest happines, who being as I am a Poore dispised, hated, scorned, and vnrespected *Souldier* so vnfortunate as no commended meanes, though many vsed, with confirmation both of *loue* and *Loyaltie*, can bee of power from dispayers *Gulfe*, to raise a *Spirit* drowned, in worst of misery: but were I not indeered vnto those by heauen made mine, who are indeed, to me, thē life, more deare from whō there is no way to run, vnlesse in me, selfe being be disolued, I would assueredly by heauens assistance in some honest *War* with vse of *Armes*, giue to my life so long as I should liue, a liuing maintenance: but novv *Immured* in my natiue home, vnseperably *Yoakt* vvith leane-fac't pouertie. I haue experience to conclude that as it is most certaine *Pax procreat Bellum*, so is it no lesse true, that a confirmed *Peace*, *Non amat Filios belli*, vntill she hath need of them.

In this estate not knovving hovv to mēd my selfe, *Religions* Lavve shall make my resolution honest, & though *Rerum conditionem mutare non possum*, yet I vvill haue povver to say *Hoc possum magnum sumere animam et viro forti dignum*, vvith patience therefore

shal

ſhal my grieued thoghts ioyfully be throvvn vpõ my makers prouidẽce by vvhoſe aſsiſtance I vvill ſtill reſolue vvith a conſtant Boſõe to perſiſt in the proſecution of commended deeds, for this I knovv *Spes mea, Chriſto viuens, Eſt viuere vt ſemper viuam.*

And thus, my Honorable Lord, hauing breathed forth a ſight vnto the grace of your compaſsionate reſpect: I humbly craue your Honor vvill vouchſafe, to patronize in this little booke (by me collected) not my ovvne but the vvords of that reuerend and learned *Judge*, the Lord *Coke*, vvho at his coming to *Norwich*, did at the *Aſſiſes* there vpon the bench, deliuer a charge ſo exelent as that it vvorthyly deſerues to be continued in perpetuall memorie, vvhich being thus produſed to a publique vievv, I hope it ſhall vnto our *Publickeweale* remaine a vvorthy perſedent, vvherein *Romes* champions may vvith ſhame decerne their long continued ſhamefull practices, *Puritans* & *Siſmatickes* learne to konvve vvith vvhat *Iniuſtice* they diſturbe the happineſſe of our moſt happie peace, our *Iuſtices*, inferior officers, *Iurors*, and Commons generally, may in this booke find out commended *documents* and *inſtructiõs* profitable as vvel directing hovv

to gouern as to be gouerned: all which particulars the learned *Iudge* hath wiſely hãdled with ſuch plauſible *Oratorical* wiſdomes eloquence, as that vvhen I heard him ſpeake, I thought the *Poet* had iuſt cauſe to ſay, *Proſpera lux orritur linguiſq; animiſq; fauete: Nam dicenda bono ſunt bona verba die.* If therfore in this following worke my Memorie hath giuen a true inſtruction to my pen, I hope my labour ſhalbe accoũted profitable, vvhen it adminiſters a Publique benefit.

Thus Right Hon. *Earle*, what I haue hereinto performed, together with my moſt vnvvorthy ſelfe, I humbly referre vnto your Honoured wiſdomes conſideration, remaining as I will alwayes reſt,

Your Honors in all humbleneſſe

of Dutie,

R. P.

The Lord Coke,

the Preface to his Charge giuen at the Aſsiſes houlden in Norwich, the fourth of Auguſt. 1606.

BEcauſe I perceiue the time hath more ſwiftly paſſed then I did expect: my ſtriſe and labour with my ſelfe, hath bin in my ſelfe to abreuiate what I purpoſe to ſpeak. And thogh my ſpeech ſhall principally bee directed to you of the Iurie, which are ſworne: yet for that I know the ſcope and ſumme of my endeuours are ſolely dedicated to Gods glory and my countries publicke benefit, I hope that all my words ſhall extend vnto the generall good of all theſe here preſent; vnto whom they are ſpoken. For I do purpoſe in my courſe, as it were with a finger to point

out thoſe growing and groning euils, which doe not only for the preſēt time diſturb & hurt our Publique Weale, *but doe alſo ſtriue, and that with a moſt dāgerous force to deface, ruin, & vterly ſubuert the Honors of our auncient name, & our now Great* Brittaines Monarchie. *But before the ſubſtance of my intended ſpeech receiues his purpoſed begining, I think it not amiſſe firſt to begin with my ſelfe, and of my ſelfe to ſpeake thus much.*

There was a certaine young Romane, *whoſe youth ſo directed his labours, with induſtrious care to attaine to knowledge by the reading and ſtudy of good letters, as that the* Senat *of* Rome *amongſt thēſelues determined to make that yong man a Iudge: therby with honored reputatiō to recōpence the trauels of his youth, & to giue encouragemēt vnto other* Romane *Citizens by their good endeuors to attain vnto like eſtate & credit in the gouernment of* Romes Publique Weale.

It happened that ſhortly after the determinatiō by the Conſuls & Senat *agreed vpō, the yōg man vpon whō the place of a Iudge ſhold be cōferred, cōming vnto the knowledge therof, fell preſētly into a deepe cōſideratiō with himſelfe about the force & Office of that worthy place wherunto*

he

he ſhould be called. And firſt cõſidered that in his owne opiniõ, he was moſt vnfit: ſufficitẽly to execute the ſubſtantiall and ſomtimes dangerous (though moſt cõmended duties) properly beloging to ſo great a dignity. For this yong Roman *hauing many Friends, Kinsfolkes, & Allies, ſome of thẽ of ſuch Rancke & Place, in the authority of gouernmẽt, as that their loue or hate could not aptly draw vnto it ſelfe a light or triuial reſpect (amongſt whõ) this yoũg man thoght that cõming to be a* Iudge; *time might vnhappely produce ſoe ſuch occation wherin his ſentẽce, in the place of* Iudgemẽt, *might giue diſtaſte, procure enimies, looſe Friẽds & gaine ſuſpect of hatefull partialitie. From which corrupt & moſt impoyſoned euill, thogh this yong* Roman *did neuer ſo much deſire, to ſtand cleared, yet* Iudging *amongſt Friends, & Kinsfolks, he ſhould aſſuredly (as he thought) by ſome detractors, be therof ſuſpected.*

The Romaine Cittizen *hauing thus vnto himſelfe preſented diuers Obſtricles and Objections, which could not in his owne ſince receiue ſufficient contradiction, he reſolued by no meanes to take vpõ him the Place & perſon of a* Iudge: *but did vſe all his Frendes and greateſt power of meanees to perſwade the* Senate, *to alter their determination concerning him and to*

beſtow ſo great an Office on ſome other, that might more worthily deſerue the ſame.

Whileſt this young man continued in a diſcontented paſſion, with purpoſe to deſire ſome good aduice, he goeth vnto a faithfull friend of his, whom he acquainted with what the Senate purpoſed, and how loath he was to vndertake ſo high an Office as to be a Iudge. His friend vpon hearing the cauſe, preſently concluded, that hee had great reaſon to ſhun the execution of ſuch an Office, in the diſcharge whereof, ſo much danger reſted. For (ſaid he) Caue ne ſis Iudex inter Amicos *becauſe* inter Amicos Inditare, *Amõgſt friends to iudge, is a thing nothing more dãgerous. And therfore he cõſtãtly aduiſed, that in any wiſe he ſhould refuſe ſuch honor, though offered vnto him: and rather be contented with a meane and priuat life, then in ſuch a place to be imployed: in which he ſhould aſſuredly looſe old friends, and get new enemies.*

This yong man (though thus by his friend aduiſed, and in himſelfe reſolued neuer to take vpõ him any ſuch, as he accounted dangerous dignitie) yet whẽ he vnderſtood, that the Senat would not be altered in their purpoſe, but that by them the place was decreed vnto him, he then determined

ned with himselfe, to trie the counsell of some other friend, whose Iudgement and Experience might beare some generall note, in directing the high affaires to the State belonging. And in this purpose he went vnto a certain Nobleman, whose prudent wisdome had oft bin vsed in businesse of most weighty consequence: vnto whom, when he had laid open his mind, shewed his griefe, and signified the Senats pleasure. The noble Gentleman with pleasant, yet graue alacritie of spirit (seasoned with the soundnesse of a learned and vnderstanding wisedome) did most powerfully aduise, that this young man should cheerefully accept so worthy an Office, being so freely bestowed vpon him. And that he should by no means seeme to neglect the gracious clemencie of supreme authoritie: Nor in any sort account it dangerous amongst friends to iudge: for in the Office and execution of Iudgement, he that is a Iudge (Desinet esse Amicus) ceaseth to be a friend: for in the manner of iudgement, no acquaintance, no griefes, no friends, no remembrance of fore-passed present, or hope of future friendship must direct the thoughts of him that is a Iudge. All that on iudgements seat is done, must be, because Iustice commaunds the doing thereof, and that with no

other

other affection, but onely becauſe it is juſt. And therefore ſaid this Noble Gentleman vnto his friend, arme thy ſelfe, in the conſtancie of a conſcionable vprightnes, and be noe longer loath to execute the Honorable Office of a Iudge, *but in thy loue to* Romes Common-wealth, *dedicate thy laboures to her publique benifit.*

By the graue and ſage aduice of that Honored Lord, this yong man was perſwaded contrarie to his former purpoſe, with humble thankfulnes to accept that Office, which the Senate *without any meanes of his, was pleaſed freelie to beſtowe vpon him: and yet generallie made ſhewe as if he ment the contrarie. and ſoddainlie preparing a ſumptuous Feaſt, vnto which he enuited all his Friends, Kinsfolke, and familiar acquintance, ſeeming that in regard he did rather chooſe to leaue his Countrie, then to take vpon him the Office of a* Iudge: *he had prouided a Bãquet or Feaſt, to Banquet with his Friendes before his departure: and in ſome ſolemne maner would take leaue of them all. Who being, as they thought, to this end aſſembled: did ſorrowfully expect the occation of their griefe, by the departure of their friend, which when the yong man perceiued, he ſpake thus vnto them.*

The Exordium.

It is true that I purpose as I must, to take my leaue of you all, and to be a ſtranger to my deareſt friends, and neareſt Allies: I muſt forget all former friendſhips, and my moſt familiar Acquaintance, I muſt accompt as greateſt ſtrãgers vnto me; Thus muſt I depart from you, & yet continue amongſt you, for by the loue, power & authoritie of the Senate, *I am appointed to be a Iudge, and in the ſeate of Juſtice, I muſt forget the remembrance of your former friendſhips and acquaintance, and onely in the perſon of a Iudge, with reſpect to keepe my conſcience cleare, I muſt with equitie & vprightnes, iuſtly adminiſter iuſtice vnto you all. And this is my cauſe, by the loue & fauour of my greateſt maiſter King* Iames, *in whoſe royall and gratious diſpoſition I am,* (Sinè precationè, vel precatio, *without price or requeſt, freely called vnto this great Office, by the fauour of my King*) *Vnto whoſe ſeruice, my life, and all I haue is humbly bound, by him, and by his gratious Clemency, I am thus ſent to bee a* Iudge *amongſt my Kinſfolkes and familiar friends, euen in boſome of my natiue Countrie.*

I muſt therefore as the young Romaine *did, take leaue of all former Acquaintance, & do*

that

that which is iuſt vnto all Eſtates and Degrees, without partialitie. Which dutie (by Gods permiſſion and aſſiſtance) I will faithfully performe, ſo long as God and my King ſhall pleaſe: that in this place I be employed in the vprightneſſe and equitie of Iudgement, ſhall all my performance entirely conſiſt. The contrarie whereof ſhall (as I hope) neither be deſired nor expected. And thus much for my ſelfe.

Here

¶ Here followeth the words of his *Charge in Order.*

AS concerning the manner and Method of my charge, I will for order and memorie ſake, extract or draw forth all that I purpoſe to ſpeake, from fiue words in his Maieſties Commiſsion contained: the words are theſe; *Quis, Quibus, Quid, Quomodo*, and *de Quibus*. *Quis*, from whom the *Commiſsion* commeth; *Quibus*, to whom it is directed; *Quid*, what it concerneth; *Quomodo*, how it ought to be executed; and *de Quibus*, of whō, and of what cauſes, wee are to enquire by vertue of the *Commiſsion* vnto vs graunted: and this laſt, *De Quibus* is of all the reſt the greateſt.

As touching the firſt word, *Quis*, whom, or from whom our *Commiſsion* commeth, that is, from the Imperiall Maieſtie of Great Brittaines Monarchie, our dread Lord, and Soueraigne, *King Iames*, the lawfull Heyre vnto our Kingdomes Throne: whoſe Princely Scepter is his proper owne, by a moſt royall and lineall diſcent. It is his

Commiſsion, by whoſe powerfull authoritie we are now and at all times commaunded to doe him ſeruice: for the awfull ſway of his Soueraigne gouernment doth, ought, and muſt inioyne all his ſubiects to a due ſubiection and obedience; for he is ouer vs the Lords annointed, and in theſe his Realmes and Dominions, in all Cauſes, & ouer all Perſons, as well Eccleſiaſticall as Ciuile, next vnder Chriſt Ieſus our ſupreame Gouernour. Vnto his Highneſſe then let our liues ſubmiſsion bend; let our faiths loyaltie dedicate it ſelfe vnto his vertues praiſe: and for the long continuance of his Maieſties moſt happie, powerfull, and victorious Rule, let all good ſubiects pray.

Now that I haue ſpoken from whom our Commiſsion commeth, the next word which doth direct my worke is, *Quibus*, To whom it is directed, that is, To vs his Maieſties *Iuſtices* of Aſsiſe, to whome by vertue of the *Kings* Commiſsion is giuen ſuch power, as that in the adminiſtration of Iuſtice wee doe repreſent the perſon of our *King*: So as if in the time of the Aſsiſes one ſhall ſtrike another in the preſence of the Iudge, be it no more then a blow on the eare, the Law prouideth, That the offendor ſhall looſe his hand, wherewith hee gaue the ſtroake, becauſe the offence was done as in the preſence of the Prince: For the Law hath ſo much care to protect the perſon of a Iudge: As that if a *Iuſtice* of Aſsiſe ſhall happen by any in his Circuit to be ſlaine, the Law adiudgeth it to bee *Leſe Crimen Maieſtatis*, An offence done againſt the Maieſtie of the King,

and

and is puniſhable, as in cauſe of Treaſon.

To ſhew the worthineſſe of our Place and Office, you ſhall vnderſtand, That the *Kings* Maieſtie at his Coronation is ſworne to doe Iuſtice vnto all his Subiects, which in his owne Perſon it is impoſsible to performe. And therfore his Highneſſe is conſtrayned by his *Miniſters*, *Deputies*, *Iuſtices*, and *Iudges*, to adminiſter Iuſtice vnto all his people. Men therefore (in ſuch place employed) ought with wonderous care, and conſcionable diligence to diſcharge the truſt in them repoſed: for vnto them, and into their hands, is (as it were) deliuered the *Kinges* owne Oath; becauſe, what he is ſworne vnto, muſt be by them in his behalfe performed. See then the dignitie of Iuſtices and Iudges of Aſsiſes, *Aſsignauimus vos Iuſticiaries noſtros*, We haue aſsigned you our Iuſtices, that you may adminiſter Iuſtice vnto our Subiects. Thus by the *Kings* Commiſsion the *Kings* owne Oath is put into our hands: and at this inſtant (in the place and perſon of a Iudge) my Soueraignes Oath into my hand is put: I (though his vnworthie Subiect) am by his gracious clemencie Authorized (as in his owne Perſon) according to his owne Oath, to' adminiſter Iuſtice vnto you his Subiects: Which dutie (by Gods aſsiſtance) as I haue vowed, I will faithfully performe: For if any (with a *Kings* Oath truſted) ſhall bee ſo vilde, as to falſifie their truſt, ſuch offence is more then Capitall.

The Place of a Iudge then, the greatet that it is, ſo much the more ſhould their care bee, to diſcharge

the ſame, vpon whom ſo weighty an Office and Honorable Authoritie is beſtowed.

From whom our *Commiſſion* commeth, and to whom it is directed, hath bin briefely ſpecified: I will now proceed, and ſhew out of this word *Quid*, what is in the *Commiſſion* contained. Briefely therefore, it is that bounded limit, in which ſolely doth conſiſt the ſtrength of our authoritie; beyond which compaſſe we are commaunded not to paſſe: For it appointeth vnto vs the *Iuſtices* of Aſsiſes, what it is that wee muſt execute, as well in cauſes betwixt partie and partie, as alſo the *King* and partie depending. So as wee are not onely to heare, judge, and determine, ſuch Cauſes of Controuerſie, as ſhall by Writ of *Niſi prius* bee tryed, but alſo to examine, acquit, or condemne all ſuch Priſoners, as ſhall for any offence againſt his Maieſtie bee brought before vs, to receiue their Tryall. So that by vertue of our *Commiſſion* wee haue authoritie, as in the perſon of our Soueraigne, to judge in cauſes, that doe concerne the life and death of the Subiect.

That our Commiſsion then is very Large, Ample, and Abſolute, containing in it ſelfe a powerfull Authoritie, may by your ſelues bee judged. And to the end, that Iuſtice may by vs receiue the more full ſound and perfect Execution, Our Commiſsion, when it hath largely deſcribed vnto vs what wee may doe therein, it then moſt ſweetely doth Appoint, Limit, and Commaund.

What manner of dooing wee muſt vſe in thoſe thinges

thinges appointed to bee done, ſo that it dooth not onely giue vnto vs authoritie, what to execute, but dooth alſo lay downe vnto vs the manner how our Authoritie muſt bee executed, and to the vnderſtanding hereof, my next word *Quomodo* doth direct it ſelfe.

Wee then, the *Iuſtices* of Aſsiſes and Gaole-Deliuerie, are by his Maieſtie appointed to adminiſter Iuſtice vnto his Subiects; but *Quomodo*, how, not according to our owne Will, Conceit, or Opinion, but *Secundum Legem & Conſuetudinem Manerie Anglicane*, According to the Lawe, Cuſtome, and Manner of England: Which Lawe, Cuſtome, and Manner muſt bee executed with Knowledge, Iudgement, Vnderſtanding, and Equitie. For wee muſt know our ſelues, and Place wherein wee are: Wee muſt Knowe and Vnderſtand each cauſe before vs brought, and according to our Knowledge and Vnderſtanding, wee muſt vprightly Iudge, according to Equitie, without (in the leaſt ſort) beeing drawne, by reſpecting eyther Perſon or Profite, to beare a Partiall Hand in the Execution of Iudgement.

Partialitie in a Iudge, is a Turpitude, which doth ſoyle and ſtayne all the Actions done by him. A Iudge that will bee Partiall, will receiue a Bribe, and ſuch an one cannot by any meanes bee juſt, in his manner of Iudging. Brybes, and Partiall dealyng dooth defile the Puritie of Iuſtice, with great ſuſpected Euill:

For a *Iudge*, if but in ſome things he be knowne to take a Bribe, or be approoued Partiall, he leaueth no one Action done by him, free from the like ſuſpect. A *Iudge* that for a Bribe will ſpeake, and but once execute a Iuſtice purchaſed, all his words & Actions for euer after may juſtly bee ſuſpected, though neuer ſo vprightly done or ſpoken.

A *Iudge* muſt vprightly, with an equall and indifferent eare and minde fully heare and vnderſtand each cauſe before hee judgeth; otherwiſe, it is not poſsible that juſtice ſhould bee juſtly executed: And to judge in a point of difference, hearing but one partie ſpeake, is aſſuredly to be vnjuſt; for this ſentence is directly true: *Qui Iudicat cauſam parte inaudita altera, Æquũ licet, Statuat, Iudex iniquus eſt:* Who judgeth a cauſe for the one partie, not hearing the other, though what he doth, may ſtand to be vpright, yet is the Iudge vnjuſt.

Our auncient Fathers did in their Pictures and Emblemes oftentimes encloſe a very great and ſubſtantiall wiſedome: Iuſtice (as you know) vſeth euer to bee painted with a Sword in the one hand, and a paire of Scales or Ballance in the other; thereby ſignifying, That Iuſtice neuer ſtrikes her Stroke, till firſt the cauſe be weighed in the Ballance; her Blow comes not, vntil the weight of the Cauſe to be tried, hath by an vpright hand equally receiued ſufficient triall: for then ſhe knoweth rightly how to ſtrike her ſtroke, and not before: when the glory of her dignity ſhall receiue perfectious Honor, as wel by protecting the Good, as in puniſhing the Bad.

Me

Mee thinkes, that oftentimes when I ryde by the way, I ſee the Effects of *Iuſtice* righlie reſembled, when I behold a Riuer with a ſiluer currant, bounded in her equall courſe, with what juſt proportion ſhee doth diſperſe her ſtreames, without bewraying any little rage of intemperate violence. But if the paſſage of that ſtreame bee ſtopt; then how like a raging Sea, ſhee ouer-flowes her banckes: and that then by an vnreſiſted force, the Meadowes, humble Vallies, weake and low growne Shrubs are drowned vp; enduring a recure-leſſe wracke, whileſt Hilles & Mountaines ſtand ſafe from feare of harme. Euen ſo it fareth with vs: The equall courſe of Iuſtice being ſtayed, the poore & meaner ſort of people they are ouerwhelmed with wrongs oppreſsion, whileſt great and wealthy men, like Hilles and Mountaines, buyld their Stations ſure, being freed from any cauſe of griefe: Iuſtice with-held, only the poorer ſort are thoſe that ſmart for it.

Iuſtice vnto all eſtates doth meaſure an euen proportion to rich and poore, her met-wand keepes an equall length, being ſealed with the teſtimonie of an vpright conſcience. To Kings, Rulers, Iudges, and Magiſtrates, this ſentence is proper. *Vos Dij eſtis*; you are Gods on earth: when by your execution of Iuſtice and Iudgement, the God of heauen is by your actiõs repreſented: but if by vs, that ſo are called *Gods*, Iuſtice and Iudgement be peruerted; it will be heauy for our ſoules, when we ſhall dye like men.

Briefly, the office of a Iudge, is patiently to heare each party ſpeake ſoberly; to anſwere or obiect, directly;

rectly; to see (as neere as may bee possible) each truth substantially prooued: And then to Iudge with an vpright heart according to Iustice and Equitie: Neuer in any one thing preferring Conclusion, before a conscionable, wise, and judiciall Consideration. In which vprightnesse, the execution of Iustice vsed by the Right Honourable (my most worthie Predecessor) in this place shall be an Example, which I will desire to follow.

Of all the Morall vertues, Iustice *(Queene-like)* is enthroned: for vnto her onely is a Throne ascribed, because her Execution doth neerest represent Heauens eternall Deitie. Iustice and Mercie are inseparable Vertues; Mercie and Iudgement, as it was Righteous King *Dauids*, and lately our good Queenes, heauenly *Elizabeth:* so it is nowe vertuous King *Iames* his Song, in whose princely breast Mercie and Iudgement are most gloriously vnited. And to the end, that I his Subiect, and in his place his Substitute, and you his Subiects may execute Iustice as wee ought, I will nowe out of my last word, *de Quibus*, declare vnto you, of whom, and of what Causes wee are to enquire, that Iustice and Iudgement may thereby receiue a more cleare and powerfull Execution.

Those then of whome wee are in the first place to enquire, are such, by whome our *King* is most disobeyed, his State disturbed, and Kingdomes threatened: Whereof (if you consider) it will be euident, That all those growing and desperate attempting euils, by which, wee are most prowdly

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menaced and Afflicted, doe principally proceed from three ſorts of Recuſants liuing amongſt vs. Of all which, the *Popiſh* Recuſant is the moſt dangerous with our *Engliſh Romaniſts* will I therefore at the firſt begin, and in the diſcription of their Actions and practiſes, I doe deſire that my wordes may bee entertained with your beſt Attention.

Our Worldes Admired *Queene Renowned Elizabeth*, did (as you know) in the beginning of her Raigne, change the State of Religion in this Kingdome in her firſt Parlament, by the conſent of her Lordes Spirituall and Temporall, being eſpecially by the Lord of Heauen directed, *Error*, *Popiſh blindneſſe*, and Faithleſſe *Conſtitutions* grounded vpon Humaine *Traditions* were extinct. And Religions Puritie according to the Law of Faith, was Reeſtabliſhed, being built vpon the vnremoued foundation, of the alone Autenticke word *Canonicall*. The bookes of the old and newe Teſtament, from the trueth whereof, ſhee did alwayes direct the courſe of her ſo happie and Tryumphant Gouernment.

Notwithſtanding, the Change of Religon, it cannot bee denyed. That for the firſt tenne yeeres, of her Maieſties Raigne, the eſtate of *Romaine Catholique* in *England* was Tollerable, though ſome were Committed in the beginning of her Cõming to the Crowne, yet none but thoſe whoſe precedent Actions, had cauſed

the faith of their Allegience to remaine doubtfull, and so was the manner of their commitment mixed with such gratious Clemencie. As that they rather enduted a fauourable restraint, then any straight or rigorous imprisonment, But aswell those so restrayned, as generally all the Papists in this Kingdome, not any of them did refuse to come to our Church, and yeeld their formall Obedience to the Lawes Established. And thus they all Continued, not any one refusing to Come to our Churches, during the first tenne yeeres of her Maiesties gouernment. And in the beginning of the eleuenth yeere of her Raigne, *Cornewallyes*, *Beddingfield* and *Silyarde* were the first Recusants They absolutely refusing to come to our Churches. And vntill they in that sort began the name of *Recusant*, was neuer heard of amongst vs.

In the beginning of the eleuenth yeere, when three *Recusants* were onely in this Kingdome to bee found. In the same yeere, *Pope Impius*, though abusiuely surnamed *Pius Quintus*, his Hellishnes was informed by some of our *English Iesuits*, that such was the number of *Romaine Catholiques* here in *England*, as that if his Horriblenesse would denounce an Excommunication against the *Queene* there was in this Realme and Kingdome, a power *Catholical* which would presently vpon an instant be in redinesse, to enter into open hostilitie with force sufficient to depose, and vtterly to supplant

her

her Highnes; and to reestablish the *Romaine* faith.

Pope Impius of that name the first, vpon the Information specified the better to seuer his hope in his good meaning to this Kingdome, presently plotteth with the *King of Spaine* for a suddaine Inuasion vpon the present Excommunication of the *Queene*. And to this end one *Robert Rodulphy* a gentleman of *Florence*, was sent by the *Pope*, vnder colour of Marchandize, to sollicit a Rebellion amongst vs. And gaue order vnto him for the receiuing of one hundred and fiftie thousand Crownes, to set forward this Attempt. And *Phillip* King of *Spaine*, by the instance of the *Pope*, had determined to send the *Duke* of *Ailna* into *England*, with all his forces in the Low Countries To Assist some great men amongst vs, who were by the *Pope* Sollicited, to be the principall Agents in a most Rebellious enterprise, vnto whome some of the one hundred, and fiftie Thousand Crowns was deliuered, and some other part sent into *Scotland* for the like effect.

Thus as you haue heard euen at the same time, when her Maiesty the late *Queene*, delt most mercifully with the *Papists*, did the *Pope* with them conspire to worke her Ruyne, & this Kingdomes Ouerthrowe, secretly complaining how on sodaine they might bring vpon vs Distructions, Spoyle, and generall Desolatton, when our then *Soueraigne* that *Queene* of *Vertue*, knowing Shee had diserued no such euill, did not in the least sort suspect any such danger.

The Pope hauing as he thought ſurely Eſtabliſhed the foundation of his hopes; Hee then Denounced the Excõmunication againſt the *Queene* which was not vnto her ſelfe made knowne, vntill the intended Rebellion in the *North* brake forth, a little before Chriſtmas, in the yeere 1569, being the twelfth yeere of her Highneſſe Raigne. And then it was knowne, that the *Pope* had Excommunicated her *Maieſtie*. And thereby freed her Subiects as the *Bull* imported, from their Subiection and Obedience. But God was pleaſed that the *Popes Bull* was ſo Bayted, as that the Rebellion by it procured, was ſodainly ſuppreſſed; For the *Pope* whoſe labour is to defend Lies, was himſelfe deceiued with a lie, for the ſtrength of the *Papiſts* here not being ſuch as hee was enformed, The true harted Proteſtants taking parte with their Soueraigne, did quickly Cutt the Throats of our *Engliſh Romaines*, dryuing ſome of the heads of that Rebellion, vnto a ſhamefull flight, and brought the reſt by our Lawes *Iuſtice*, to a ſhamefull death.

Her Maieſtie in the thirteenth yeere of her Raigne, hauing made the Law before ſpecified, the very next yeere following, out Commeth *Sanders Booke de Viſibili Monarchya*, wherein he plainely ſeteth downe how the *Pope* had ſent one *Morton* and *Web*, two Prieſts before the ſaid Rebellion to the Lords & Gentlemen in the *North*, to Excite them, with their followers, to take vp Armes, ſignifying vnto them the *Popes* Commandement:

dement: Alleadging, That her Maieſtie being excommunicated, Her Subiects were releaſed from their Obedience. And therefore he doth Directly Iuſtifie the ſayd *Commotion*. Aſcribing the euill ſucceſſe thereof to the late publiſhing of the ſaide Excommunication. Becauſe it was not generally knowne, vntill the yeere after it was Denounced. VVhen *Felton* had ſet it vpon the *Biſhop* of *Londons* gate. Affyrming that if it had bin publiſhed the yeere before, or when the Rebells were in Armes, they had aſſuredly preuailed againſt the *Queene*, and executed the ſaide Sentence at the ſame time, for her depoſinge from the Crowne.

Thus Trayterouſly with more then Brazen Inſolence, did that Traytor *Sanders* ſpitt out his poyſoned venim. Thereby deſiring to Corrupt the hearts of her highnes Subiects, and to make them fit for a newe Rebellion, which courſe by him takē, was Immitated by *Parſons*, & many others to the like effect. VVho ceaſed not by there Hereticall and Lying Pamphlits, with moſt Trayterous impudencie, to abuſe her Maieſtie and the *State*. And not thus contented, in the yeere one thouſand fiue hundred ſeuentie and nine, *Stukely* aſſiſted by *Sanders*, and other *Catholiques*, both *Engliſh*, *Iriſh*, and *Italian*, with the *Popes* Commiſſion, entred into *Ireland*. The *Pope* himſelfe, in the furtherance of that Courſe ſending thither certaine forces vpon his owne Charge, VVhileſt all that time, her Maieſtie that

Queene of mercie was ſo farre from being moued, as that with Patience, ſhee endured all theſe Iniuries, onely inforcing that one Lawe, which as you haue heard, ſhee moſt Iuſtly made againſt them.

Whileſt *Ireland* by the *Popes* procurement remained in Combuſtion. It happened that, *Pius Quintus* dyed, and *Gregorie* the thirteenth ſucceeded in his place, who preſently Reneweth his Predeceſſors former *Bull*, and denounced her Maieſtie to bee Excommunicated, with *Intimation* of all other particulers in the former *Bull* mentioned, which done, there was by him ſent ouer into *England*. *Campion* and *Parſons*, they came vnto vs in the yeere one thouſand fiue hundred and eightie, there comming was to Alienate the hearts of her Maieſties Subiects, from their due obedience. And to make a partie ſtrong to depoſe the *Queene*, Ioyning with the *Pope*, *and King of Spaine*, by whome there was then an intended preparation againſt vs. But the Attempts and practiſes of them both at that inſtant fayling in *England*. *The Pope as a Temporall Prince*, diſplayeth his Banner in *Ireland*, with purpoſe to depriue her *Highnes*. Firſt from that Kingdome, and then by degrees to depoſe her from this. Notwithſtanding ſo mild was the proceedings of her Maieſtie againſt them, as that there were in the ſpace of Tenne yeers, not much aboue twelue perſons,

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that were by the Iuſtice of her Lawes adiudged to die, and the moſt of them *Semenaries*, and all of them Conuicted in cauſes of Treaſon.

Her Maieſtie when ſhee heard of the ſecond Excommunication, and had ſeene what followed in her Kingdome vpon the firſt. Shee was then in all Chriſtian Pollecie enioyned to preuent the ſucceſſe of dangers imminent. Her Highneſſe therefore, in the yeere one thouſand fiue hundred eightie and one, cauſed a Proclamation to bee made for the calling home of her Subiects from beyond the Seas, ſuch eſpecially as were Trayned vp in the Seminaries, perceiuing that they learned nothing there but diſloyaltie, & Treaſon. And preſently after this her Proclamation, ſhee called a Parliament, wherein a Lawe was agreeable in effect to the ſayd Proclamation, enforced with a penaltie of death, for any *Ieſuite* or *Seminary* Prieſt, to repayre into *England*, and for any to receiue or intertaine them, ſhee would willingly that thoſe of ſuch profeſſion, ſhould keep themſelues without the Lymits of her Kingdome.

But if againſt her will, they would come into her Land to ſow the ſeed of Sedition, and Rebellion amongſt her Subiects, and to lay, their plots how to ſupprize her life, and to make a way for Forraigne Enemies with bloodie handes to enter vppon her Dominions. And by Hoſtill Inuaſion to bring her Kingdomes to diſtruc-

tion, and to expoſe her people vnto the Slarie of a ſeruile yoake, What ſhoulde her Maieſtie leſſe haue done in the preuention of ſuch a Lamentable euill, but to hang vp them that were the principall Actors in ſo bloodie and Tragecall a Tyranny.

From the yeere eighty one, to eightie eight, her Maieſtie was not free from Continual *Traiterous* and *Rebellious* practiſes, deſperately attempted againſt her life, or intended ſubuertion of her Kingdome. Firſt the *Popes* forces being ouerthrowne in *Ireland*, *the Pope and King of Spaine*, preſently ioyned with the *Duke of Guiſe*, for the executing of a moſt deſperate diſignment againſt her Maieſtie. *Arden* and *Someruilde*, would haue layd vyolent handes vpon her ſacred perſon. *Doctor Parrie*, intended the like villanie. *Northumberland* reuolted from his Obediēce. *Mendoza* the *Ieſuite*, and others of that Crue or Sect, appotnted by the *Pope* to order and Mannage theſe deueliſh deſignments.

In the yeare eightie, to forerunne the purpoſed *Spaniſh Inuaſion*, againſt which time *Campion*, *Parſons*, *Haywoode*, and all the *Ieſuites* and *Seminaries*, had ſo beſturred themſelues. There is certaine bookes printed beyond the Seas, ſent ouer into *England*, therby to prepare the hearts of our people, to Ioyne with *Spaine*, and to take vp Armes againſt their Soueraigne, with perſwaſions

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grounded vpon this position. *Viz. That in all warres which may happen for Religion: euery Catholike man is ioyned in conscience to imploy his person and forces by the Popes direction, that is, how far, when, where, & how either at home or abroad, he may and must breake with his temporall Soueraigne, and that vpon paine of deadly sinne.* Vpon a foundation so diabolical: What fruits other then diuellish can be expected? And yet, do but further note how damnable a spirit is in their bookes and writings bewrayed.

All the Papists in this kingdome, were most violently perswaded, that vpon the *Spanish* inuasion, they should all ioyne their greatest force with *Spaine*. It was in them accounted an error of conscience, want of courage, and effeminate dastardie, that they had suffered her Maiestie almost thirtie yeares to raigne ouer them. They were threatned with Excommunication, and vtter ruine, both of themselues and their posteritie, if they did any longer obey and defend, or acknowledge her highnes to be their *Queene* or superior, and did not foorthwith ioyne their forces to the Spaniards. And to the end, that this most godlesse, trayterous, inhumane and vnnaturall appointment, by subiects to their lawfull annointed Soueraigne, and natiue countrey, might receiue the better acceptance; There was vsed a most insinuating, though faithlesse manner of perswasion, guilded ouer with a seeming shewe of Holinesse: (For thus,) our *English Romane Catholikes* were promised) *That in the king of Spaines armie, there were diuerse Priests readie to serue*

euerie mans ſpirituall neceſsitie, by confeſsion, counſell, and all conſolation in Chriſt Ieſus, and that they ſhould be ſo aſsiſted by the bleſſed patrons, both in heauen, and in earth, with the gard of all Gods holy Angels, with our bleſſed Sauiour in the ſouer aigne Sacrament, and with the dailye, moſt holy Oblation of Chriſts owne deare body and bloud. As that it could not fall out otherwiſe, but that they ſhould aſſuredly preuaile: Hereby may the world perceiue in what Angelike manner of brightneſſe Popiſh doctrine can ſuite treaſons damnable, euen as blacke as hell.

You haue heard what preparation was prouided by the Pope and Papiſts, for the furtherance of Spaines intended inuaſion, we will now proceed to matter of action. And but call to our remembrance (that euer to bee remembred) powerfull worke of God:) for our deliuerance in the yeare 88. The king of Spanes *Armado*, that admirable, and warlike nauie, ſo well furniſhed with valiant ſouldiers, and all munition fit for warre, when ſuddenly we were in danger by a Potent enemie to be ſurpriſed, when her late Maieſties Royall Nauie, was ſcarſly put foorth to ſea. And the beſt ſhips of ſtrength not fully furniſhed with ſhot and powder, as was neceſſatie in ſo weightie a buſineſſe: yet to the neuer dying glory of a maiden Queene, ſuch was her princely power, although at ſea but in part vnprouided, as that by the loue and grace of heauens eternall prouidence, her Maieſtie by a moſt noble *Battell* at ſea, euen in the preſence of her kingdomes *Teritories*, did vtterly diſperſe and

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ouerthrow, that surnamed inuincible Spanish nauie, so that not any Spaniards floate, (vnlesse brought captiue could arriue) vpon her Englands shoare. Nor but verie few of their so much admired fleete of shippes, returned to their natiue home. Thus did God on Queene *Elizabeth* bestow a glorious victorie, euen in the despite of Pope, Papist, trayterous Iesuits, Seminaries, Monkes, Friers, and all the rablement of that Antichristian Sea.

The power of Spaine, was brought against vs, by the procurement of our English Papists, and what recompence was intended for them, in the charitie of their catholike profession may appeare, by that which the Duke of *Medina Sidonia* affirmed, which was, *That both Catholickes and Heretikes that came in his way, should be all one to him, his sword could not discerne them, so he might make way for his maister, all was one to him.* Thus did Papists, as still they doe, desire to worke our downe fall in the certaintie of their owne destruction.

God hauing shewed his loue to our late Queene and kingdome, by that wonderfull deliuerance before described: The Pope to further his accustomed indeuours, practised with Spaine, about a new inuasion, and the better to bring his purpose to passe: *Parsons*, that auncient Iesuite, and most notorious traytor, vnder the Pope, chiefe gouernour of all the Iesuits, (principall enemies to *Iesus*,) was placed in the

Spaniſh Court, by whoſe perſwaſion there was a new *Seminarie* erected at *Valedolyde*, from whence in three yeares, there was ſent thirteene prieſts into England, to prepare a paſſage for the new intended inuaſion. Whereupon in the yeare 1591. a Proclamation went forth for the apprehending of all ſuch Prieſts or Seminaries, as ſhould come from Spaine. Becauſe their intention was knowne vnto the State here. But to the end the Diuell (the Pope I ſhould ſay) might want no inſtruments for the effecting of murthers, treaſons, and rebellions, by *Parſons* procurement, more Seminaries were erected in Spaine, (and England ſtill troubled with Romes trayterous diſciples.) But the new inuaſion being twiſe ſet on foote, God did ſo warre againſt their purpoſes, as that their prepared Nauie was at ſea, diſperſed by ſtormes, ſo as moſt of them endured ſhipwracke.

That expectation failing, then was the Infant of Spaine intituled to the Crowne of *England*: (and to that end, ſundry bookes diuulged) Queene *Elizabeth* was by them accounted a tyrant: more tyrannicall then *Nero*, *Decius*, *Diocleſian*, *Maxentius*, or any the greateſt perſecutors of the Chriſtians: Not thus contented, from the yeare 88. to the yeare 99. there were continuall treaſons practiſed againſt the Royall perſon of her late Maieſtie, *Patricke*, *Collen*, *Lopez*, *Yorke*, *Williams*, *Squier*, all attempting to murther her Highneſſe.

All theſe attempts, plots, proiects, & trayterous ſtratagems, taking no effect. Then was there from the

the Pope a new Bull sent, whereby the Papists were commanded to vse a formall maner of obedience, vntill they might grow to be a strength sufficiently strong to depose the Queene. Which expectation once accomplished, then had they power by the sayd Bull to take vp armes against her. Thus they neuer left continuall practising, vntill a little before her Maiesties death: about which time, by some of the principall *Agents*, in the last most horrible treason, there was complotted another Spanish inuasion: For the accomplishing whereof, the yonger *VVinter* was a messenger vnto the king of Spaine, and *Guydo Fawkes* vnto the Pope, and a third was imployed to the Archduke.

The king of Spaine at that time being our enemie, entertained *VVinters* motion, with most kind acceptance, protesting that the English Catholiks should bee as deare vnto him, as his home-borne *Castillians*, and in loue to the intended businesse, vowed in the word of a king, to defend their safety, (all which, as souldiers say) with pollicie in warre he might do) being then our enemie. But it is a matter cleane out of my *Element*, and therefore I will dispute no further about it: But the Counsell of Spaine holding a conference about the mannaging of the plot by *VVinter* layd. It was obiected that there would be want of horse for such a businesse. Whereupon *Winter* vndertaketh to furnish them with a certaine number, and receiueth gold to that end. At last the purposed designement being embraced with a generall consent, a souldier

ſtanding by, being ſome Commander, a Captaine, or ſuch like, ruffles out this ſouldier like Latine, *Nunc tempus pro nobis erit aliquid obtinere: Now ſhall it be time for vs to get ſomething.* But in the middeſt of this intended preparation, it happened, that her Maieſtie Royall, and moſt gracious *Elizabeth* died: And our now Imperiall Soueraigne King *Iames*, did both inherite her kingdomes and her vertues.

His Maieſtie beeing with peace eſtabliſhed in his royall ſeate, the king of Spaine would no longer embrace his former purpoſed appointment: Nor would conſent, that any thing ſhould againſt a king be plotted, with whom he neuer had warre: Nor by whom he neuer receiued any iniurie. So as our Papiſts were in that behalfe diſmiſſed of their expected hope: and enforced to ſeeke out ſome other meanes; and now I will bewray a ſecret (I am ſure not generally knowne.) In the diſcourſe whereof I doe deſire attention.

Pope *Clement* the ninth, who was accounted the laſt beſt of many Popes, (all notwithanding being naught.) He vnderſtanding Spaines purpoſe, as before is ſpecified, concerning an inuaſion, ſuppoſing that the *Queene* might die before that buſineſſe tooke effect: And fore ſeeing vnto whom theſe kingdomes ſhould of right deſcend, ſent ſecretly a Bull into England, which was ſo cloſely concealed, amongſt our Papiſtes here, as that her Maieſtie in her life time knewe not thereof.)

thereof. (For if she had) I am sure, that by reason of mine employment neare vnto her: I should haue heard if she had known any such thing. But assuredly both her selfe, and the *State*, were ignorant thereof.

But now this Bull being brought to light (which my selfe haue seen & read) it importeth thus much. *quãdo contingeret illam miserimã Elizabethã mortuã esse That when that miserable wench Elisabeth should happen to dye, Tunc nos volumus, Then we will, that all and euery of you, do vse your best vttermost endeauors quibuscunque modis et viis, by what strength or meanes so euer, to keepe out the Scottish Hereticke, that in any wise he may not be admitted to the kingdome of England, vnlesse he would reconcile himselfe to* Rome, *and hold his crowne of the Pope, and conforme himselfe and all his subiects to the religion of the Romane Church.* This *Bull* vntill Garnet was taken, slept in *England*, beeing filled with a most proud, scornfull and Trayterous boldnesse.

When that *misserimam foeminam Miserable* woman or *wench Elizabeth* shall dye, had the *Papall* proud vsurper, no other attribute to bestowe vppon a *Queene* then *Miserable wench*, shee liued Renowned thorough all the Corners of the worlde, shee ruled in peace, beloued of all her Subiects, vnlesse those infected with the *Romane Leprosie*, shee was admired, & feared, confronting all oppositions, with vndoubted confidence, shee was a Prince potent enough, to defend her Kingdomes and to helpe her Neighbours beeing oppressed with

with glorious victorie ſhe beat Spaine from off her coaſts, and rifled him in the boſome of his owne kingdome, wrapping his townes and ſhippes in cloudes of fire and ſmoake. She ſwayed the Royall Scepter of her kingdomes gouernement with triumphant victorie; maintaining peace amongſt her people, euen in the worlds deſpight, 44 yeares her vnmatched wiſedome, and vnconquered prowes crowned her the *Peereleſſe wonder* of her ſexe: ſhe liu'd and di'd a Queene, her life beloued, and her death lamented: And yet for all this, was ſhe no more in the Popes account, then a *miſerable wench*. Let the Popes pride ſinke to hell: whileſt heauens *Elizabeth* (whoſe bleſſed ſoule from earth to heauen is taken) doth, and ſhall with *God and Chriſt* for euer liue in the heauenly glorie of eternall happineſſe.

Pope *Clement* the ninth, hauing by his Bull, as before ſpecified, giuen commaundement that the Papiſts ſhould by all meanes howſoeuer, withhold our now Soueraigne from his lawfull right. (And notwithſtanding that *Rebellious Commiſsion*,) his Maieſtie being with great ioy peaceably enſtalled. *Peerſie* & *Catesby* went vnto their great Prouinciall *Garnet*, & of him enquired, whether the king being as he was alreadie eſtabliſhed, they might by vertue of the Popes Bull, vſe any meanes to ſupplant or depoſe him, conſidering they were not of force to withſtand his comming at the firſt. And *Garnet* anſwered, that vndoubtedly they might, whereuppon they preſently reſolued to put in execution,

that

that most horrible powder treason, the like whereof, vntill that time, was neuer to the world reported.

Some are of opinion, that if a tolleration of religion had bin admitted vnto the Papists: that then no such bloudie stratagem should by any of them haue bene practised. But if you shall consider the tenor of the Popes Bull, you may then perceiue, that their request of indifferent Tolleration was but a colourable pretence in them. For that might not haue serued their turnes: For they were enioyned to worke his Maiesties ouerthrow, vnlesse he would reconcile himselfe to *Rome*, hold his Crowne of the Pope, and conforme himselfe and all his subiects to the Religion of the *Roman Church*. It is not then a toleration only which they seeke, nor could they haue bene contented therewith (although so much shall neuer be granted vnto them.) They may therefore easily despaire of the rest (though they the Pope and the Diuell) doe neuer so much conspire to bring their Hell-borne practises to passe.

As touching the last horred treason, by inhuman sauages complotted: I know not what to speake, because I want words, to describe the trayterous, detestable, tyrannicall, bloudie, murtherous villanie of so vilde an action. Onely this had their horrible attempt taken place. This *Sea-Inuy ronde-Eylande*, the beauty, and wonder of the world. This so famous and farre renowm'd great *Brittaines Monarchie*, had at one blowe endured a recouerlesse ruine, being ouerwhelmed in a sea of

bloud, all thoſe euils, ſhould haue at one inſtant happened, which would haue made this happieſt kingdome of all kingdomes, the moſt vnhappy. Our conquering Nation, conquered in her ſelfe: her faire and fertile boſome, beeing by her owne natiue (though foule vnnaturall children) torne in peeces, ſhould haue beene made a ſcorne to all the nations of the earth. This ſo well planted, pleaſant, fruitfull worlds, accounted *Edens paradiſe*, ſhould haue beene by this time, made a place diſconſolate, a waſt and deſert wilderneſſe, generally ouerrunne with heards of bloud-deſiring wolues. This ſo well gouern'd, Populous, potent Monarchy, had in one moment beene left without either *King*, *Queene*, *Prince*, *State*, *Nobility*, *Law*, *Iuſtice*, or any ſtrength of gouernment, ſodainly had we then beene throwne not onely to the cruelty of ciuill warre, that too too murtherous *Domeſtick* ſpoyling enemie: But alſo euen in that inſtant generally haue beene expoſed vnto the all-deuouring hand of forraine Enemies, in our Congregations, the ſongs of *Syon* had no more been ſung: But in their ſteed had bin brought vnto vs the ſongs of *Gehenna* ſét from *Rome*: that *Sathans* ſynagogue, all our beſt-freedomes liberty, had by this bene turn'd into the worſt bondage of moſt ſlauiſh ſeruitude: *Papiſts*, *Romane Catholickes* that would haue wrought all our deſtructions thus; Should not Iuſtice, iuſtly then commaund their actions chiefly to be enquired of.

If what hath bene ſpoken, be vnto your memo-

ries,

ries committed, you may then conſider, that from the eleuenth yeare of Queene *Elizabeths* Raigne, vntill the third yeare of our now Soueraignes gouernment, the Papiſts haue continually labored to aduance the ſupremacy of the *Romane Church*, which to accompliſh they haue contended thirty foure yeares, in which time they haue not omitted to practiſe Treaſons and Rebellions onely amongſt vs here at home. But haue alſo complotted to bring vpon vs *Forraine Inuaſions*, & that from time to time, ſo ſoone as they were diſmiſſed of one hope, they preſently ſet a foote ſome other proiect: both at home and abroad: and ſtill being by the loue and mercy of GOD towards vs continually preuented: At laſt, taking counſell with hell, and *Sathan*, they had practiſed a moſt helliſh attempt. wherein their Diuelliſhneſſe brought it ſelfe neareſt to the nature of the Diuell, making fire and brimſtone the inſtruments of our deſtruction. And though the principall Actors of that euill, haue thereby themſelues deſtroyed: yet the former experience of their continuall attempting may giue vs warning, that they will not yet ſeaſe to attempt, and though that *Ieſuites* and *Seminaries* haue beene the principall Agents in all the ſeuerall complotted treaſons, and that the Papiſts amongſt vs cannot generally be accuſed, yet thus much I muſt ſay, thoſe perſons, and that Religion whereby *Ieſuites* and *Seminaries* are receiued, protected and concealed, are equally to be accounted daungerous, for were there not ſuch receiuers a-

mongſt vs, *Romes* ſtate, Traytors would not ſo faſt come, ſwymming from *Tyber* hither, to arriue at *Tyborne*, onely, I conclude therefore, that if in great *Brittaine*, there were no Papiſts, this *Monarchy* ſhould be as free from treaſon as any Nation in the world.

But now deare Contrimen, ſeeing you haue heard what godleſſe and dangerous practiſes haue continually by *Romes* fauorites beene plotted a. gainſt vs. I deſire that with attention you will vnderſtand what it is (as they ſay) for which with ſuch vehemency they contend. The world is made belieue, that the aduancement of Religion is the onely cauſe for which they ſtriue, wherein they ioyne themſelues vnto the *Pope*, becauſe there is no religion good, but that which is by the *Pope* allowed, wherein my purpoſe is to binde all Papiſts vnto their owne aſſertion.

That *Pius Quintus* whome thoſe of their ſide doe account to haue beene a good *Pope* (though by falſe perſwaſions too much miſled) before the time of his excommunication againſt Queene *Elizabeth* denounced, ſent his letter vnto her Maieſtie, in which hee did allow the *Bible*, and Booke of *diuine ſeruice*, as it is now vſed amongſt vs, to bee authenticke, and not repugnant to truth. But that therein was contayned enough neceſſary to ſaluation, (though there was not in it, ſo much as might conueniently bee) and that hee would alſo allowe it vnto vs, without chaunging any parte: ſo as her Maieſtie would

ac-

acknowledge to receiue it from him the *Pope*, (and by his allowance) which her Maiestie denying to do, she was then presently by the same Pope excommunicated: And this is the truth concerning Pope *Pius Quintus*, as I haue faith to God and men, as I haue oftētimes heard it auowed by the late *Queene* her owne wordes: And I haue conferred with some *Lordes* that were of greatest reckoning in the *State*, who had seene and read the letter, which the Pope sent to that effect: as haue bene by me specified. And this vpon my credit, as I am an honest man, is most true.

By this then all our *English Papistes*, either *Iesuites* or *Seminaries* may learne to knowe that it is not Religion that they striue for, but onely to maintaine the *Antichristian* head of *Romes* vsurpt supremacie. And if there bee in this presence any *Romane Catholickes*, or so manie of this nation, as shall heare of that which hath now beene spoken. I entreate them, as my deare and louing Countrey men, that they will no longer bee seduced, by any liuing spirite sent from Rome, the Pope, whom they beleeue, hath himselfe allowed, that in our Church, *VVe haue a doctrine of Faith and Religion, sufficiently necessarie to Saluation*: Deere Countreymen, wee haue then enough, and neede not the helpe of anie Pope, Sythence all the Papistes generally came vnto our Churches before our late *Queene Elizabeth* was excommunicated.) Against our *Dread Soueraigne* there is no Excommunication denounced. In Gods name,

then let vs ioyne in our prayers, and Sacraments, and performe a due obedience to God, and to our *King*, as wee are all of one Nation, ſo let vs be all of one *Church*, and *Chriſt* beeing onely our head, let vs all deſire as in one ſheepfolde, to be the ſanctified members of his glorious bodie.

If there be any Papiſts ſo fooliſh, and altogether reaſonleſſe, as to expect that in time his Maieſtie may be drawne to ſuch alteration, or Tolleration: as they deſire. I will them aſſuredly to know, they hope in vaine, for his Maieſtie is, and euer hath beene confidently reſolued, in matter of *Religion*, to continue the ſelfe ſame order and profeſſion, which he now profeſſeth. Whereof I will giue you an inſtance, Since the time of the *Earle of Northumberlands* Impriſonment, there was amongſt his papers found a letter, which was obiected againſt him in *Starre Chamber*, when himſelfe was called vnto his anſwere: The letter was directed to the *Kings Maieſty*, that now is, as he was then *King* of *Scotland*. In which amongſt other things, the *Earle* had aduiſed his *Highneſſe* not to deſire to bee proclaimed Heire apparant to this *Crowne*, nor proclaime *Prince Henry* to be the *Prince* of *Wales*, But to ſtay the time, vntill the *Queenes* death. And that then he would reſolue at his comming to admit vnto the *Catholicks* a Tolleration for their religion, which he requeſted, becauſe the Papiſts did put ſome truſt in him, to Sollicit that buſineſſe in their behalfe. This letter beeing read, his Maieſties owne anſwer was ſhewed: (Till that time, by Gods

owne

owne hand preserued) to signifie vnto the world his religious vnremoued confidence. To the first parte of the *Earles* letter, his *Highnesse* answered, that he had no contrary purpose, but to attend *Gods* leasure. And for his motion concerning the *Catholicks* tolleration, he was purposed to come vnto this kingdome in peace. But as touching matter of Gouernment, he was resolued neuer to alter any thing, either in *Church* or *State*. His Maiesties most noble and *Kingly* resolution, not enduring then to temporize vnder any pretext of humane pollicy. Can it now be thought, that his *Highnes* will be remoued in matter of Religion, from that Station whereupon his Soules saluation standeth built.

Such Papists (as notwithstanding the impossibility of their hope will still remaine peruerse) despising to be admonished: Let them know for certainty, that the lawes concerning them, shall receiue a most strict and seuere execution, you therfore of the iury, ought to be very carefull in that businesse. And all the iustices in their seuerall Limits, are in their allegiance to the *King*, bound in conscience to vse all diligence so to obserue the Papists, as that vnto their houses, there bee not any *Iesuites* or *Seminaries* intertayned. For there practise, is to Alienate the hearts of our *English* Subects, from the obedience to their soueraigne. In which imployment, though the Iesuites bee most notorious, yet I account the *Seminarie* Priests more dangerous; Because their estimation stealeth to it

selfe

ſelfe a better opinion in the hearts of the ſimple: Notwithſtanding, all their worke is directed to one and the ſelfe ſame end; If all good ſubiects then ſhall deſire the adminiſtration of *Iuſtice*, according to the Lawes eſtabliſhed: they may either be conuerted or ſupplanted. By whome our ſubuerſion, and vtter ſupplanting hath ſo often times beene attempted. I therefore leaue them, their actions and proceedings to be iudged off, and carefullie to be lookt into, by your moſt mature conſideration and beſt diligence, leaſt that our too too much conueniencie, doth yet vntimely bring vpon vs ſome dangerous miſchiefe. Them and their actions therfore are principally in the firſt place to be enquired of, and that with ſuch regard as their cunning may by no meanes outreach the meaning of the Statute Law inacted for their puniſhment, wherin though there be as much concluded, as the wiſedome of our ſtate could deuiſe, in the preuention of any future euill, yet as I heare, the *Pope* hath already granted ſuch diſpenſation, as that by their helliſh, *Sophiſtrie*, of *Equiuocating*, they may take a courſe wherein to deceiue our hope of there amendment, but in Gods name let the law prouided, receiue a iuſt and faithfull execution, & then doubt not, but their faithleſſe Popiſh policie ſhall be ſufficiently preuented. And that in time the moſt ſacred perſon of Gods anointed King, whome *Pope Clement* the ninth, cold proudly dare to tearm the ſcottiſh *Heritike*, ſhall vnderneath his Princely foot tread downe Romes faithleſſe *Papall* proud

and

and Antichristian heresy, & now in hells despight, vertuous King *Iames* being the *Emperiall* Maiesty of great *Brittaines Monarchy*, the strength of whose establisht awfull gouernment, makes the proudest Territories & most strong foundation of earths Babilonde to shake, I doubt not but in his royall selfe and his most blest posterity, as is already by force of his commaunding power, not without iust cause fearfully suspected, the destruction of the scarlet whore shall be made certaine to her, and her adulterates, when they together shall bee with wrath destroyed: for the accõplishing of which most glorious worke, let all true beleeuing protestants, like faithfull subiects to their lawfull *Soueraigne* yeelde there best obedience to his highnesse lawes, and thus much concerning Romane *Catholikes*.

Those that you are in the second place to enquier of, are a second manner of Recusants, though nothing so dangerous as the *Popish recusant* is, yet are they a Sect not to be tollerated in any *Monarchy all* gouernment. They are a certaine Brotherhood, which can indure no *Bishops*: The originall founder of their schisme, as they now professe, it hath (as some of them say) turnd an *Apostatate*, to his first profession, so as now they are ashamed of his name, and will by no meanes in their fraternity be deriued from him, yet they remaine knowne to the world, by the name of *Brownings*. The most part of them are simple, & Illiterate people. And they together with those of that sorte, which seeme to haue learning, are as all the rest, onely arrogant, and

wilfully peruerſe, fitter to be reformed by puniſhment, rather then by argument: And though their ignorance vnderſtands not what they doe, yet doe their endeauours ſtriue to ſhake in ſunder the whole frame of our *Emperiall* gouernment, for if (as they deſire) the forme of our *Ciuill Lawes* were abrogated, Then ſhould our *Common Law*, and it of neceſſity fall togither. For they are ſo *woven* and *incorporated* each in other, as that without the one, the other cannot ſtand: for example.

An action Reall, beeing brought at *common* Law, in Bar thereof Baſtardy is pleaded, our *common* Law can then proceed no further, vntill by the *ciuill* Law the matter of Baſtardy be determined, So is it in the right of a *Womans* Dowre, and in the tryall of *Wills*; In all theſe, and diuerſe others without the Aſſiſtance of the *ciuill* Law, the *comon* Law hath no power to determine. If then the *ciuill* Law muſt of neceſſity remain, it is no leſſe neceſſary that the iudges therof ſhould be continued.

And againe without the graue aſſembly of our Reuerend *Biſhops*, his Maieſties high court of parliament, ſhould be vnfurniſhed, no law being there enacted, but that which is by the *King*, his Lords ſpirituall and temporall confirmed. Theſe therefore that would haue no *Biſhops* amongſt vs, do in their deſires ſtriue, from his highnes, and the dignity of his State, to pluck the right hand of gouernment, and as much as in them lyeth to break in ſunder, the golden frame of iuſt *Authority* for if no *Biſhops*, then no *Lawes*, if no *Lawes*, no *King*;

and

and to this height doth their presumption clime, although their ideot blindnes seems as if they did not vnderstand so much, the mischiefe of their schisme is most vnsufferable: For neuer was there a nation knowne to flourish hauing a *Monarchie* in the kingdome, and a *Mallachie* in the Church. And therfore you of the Iurie faile not to enquire of all such Sectaries and presents them.

It is therefore the faithfull Protestant, that only sets the *Crowne* vpō our Soueraignes head, & holds it vp so fast, as no opposition can make it shake. And by their loyall hands will *Heauen* bepleased, to keep it safe from falling, which Mercy in the most *Royall issue* now established, God for christs his sake cōfirme vnto vs, so long as Sun & Moon endureth.

The last sort of Recusants, though troublesome, (yet in my conscience the least dangerous) are those which do with too much violence, contend against some ceremonies vsed in the Church, with whose indirect proceedings, in mine owne knowledge, his Maiestie is not a little grieued. But *I* will hope (as his *Highnesse* doth) that in time, they will grow wise enough to leaue their fooliſhnesse, and consider that ceremonies not against the Analogie of Faith, nor hindring Faiths deuotion, are no such bug-beares as should scar them from the exercises of diuine duties, nor cause them to disturbe the peace of our Church, whose gouernment is more consonant to Scripture then all the best reformed Churches at this day in the world. You of the Iurie faile not therefore to enquire of their abuses,

which doe delay to conforme themselues vnto the lawes obedience, that such of them as doe growe insolent, may not goe vnpunished: And thus much concerning our three sorts of *Recusants*.

Thus hauing touched these groning euills, which beeing well considered, doe cry for iustice against themselues, threatning (if not suppresse) To make our *Commō wealth* to grone vnder the burthē of inforc'd calamity. I will now, from them proceed vnto those growing enormities, whose vngouernd height is already to such imperfectiō grown, as that the iustice of this kingdomes gouernment, receiueth scandall by their meanes, and the publick *weale* grieued by vniust oppression.

I heare a generall complaint against the multiplicity of *Ecclesiasticall Courts*, and that causes are in them continued longer then an vpright and orderly proceeding would necessarily inforce, by meanes wherof, his *Maiesties* good subiects, do receiue losse, and are much hindred, by there so often constrayned attendance. But in this *Diocesse*, I hope the occasion of any such complaints, shall no more be heard of, Because I speake before those reuerend Magistrates,* in whose authority consisteth sufficient power to reforme those abuses already complained vpon, I will therfore insist no further, few words content the wise, what I haue spoken, I know is heard by an approued wisedome.

* *The L. Bishop and the Chancellour of that dioces being then present vpon the bench.*

As touching the pennall Statutes for the punishing of any vnreuerent demeanure in Churches,

or

or violence offered to the ministers, or quarrelling stryking, or drawing of any weapon in Church, or Church yard, I know they be ordynary matters, giuen in euery charge. And therfore you are not ignorant of the Lawes in that case made and prouided: I will therfore in respect of the shortnesse of the time, onely point out vnto you some seuerall officers, whose actions not beeing sufficiently looked into, many abuses are committed, which do passe vnpunished.

Our common wealth, receiues much iniurie by our *Escheators*, who by abusing their cõmission, doe most intolletable wrong, to many of his Maiesties good Subiects, for an *Escheator* will come into the country, and beeing informed of an honest *Yeoman* deceased, be it that his Lands, be not aboue the yearly value of forty or fiftie Pounds, & leauing an *Heire* behind him, an inquiry shall bee made, by what euidence euery acre of ground is holden, and finding but one peece, for which an expresse euidence cannot bee shewed, for that particular parcell, Then by a Iury to that end Summoned by the *Escheator*, that peece of groũd must be adiudged to be held in *Capite*. And so an office beeing found: all the whole inheritance must bee taynted, and the yong heire a warde to the *King*, who then beeing presently Begged by some one or other, by then hee hath compounded for his wardship, sued out his liuery, and then perhaps marryed to one starke naught, or not worth any

thing, the yong heire ſhall bee left iuſt worth ſo much, and no more: And this (as I thinke) is a moſt lamentable thing. God forbid that euery man ſhould be inforced by ſuch courſe, to proue his right in euery particular acre of ground which he hath. For many particular peeces are oft included in one euidence, without being diſtinguiſhed by ſeuerall names. So that it is impoſſible, but by ſuch courſe, as the *Eſcheator* takes, lands that neuer held in *Capite*, muſt needs be brought in compaſſe of ſuch *Tenure*. And againe, the intent of the Law, for the benefit of the *king*, looketh only to Manors, Lands, and Tenements of great value, without hauing reſpect to ſuch petty things. Where an heire to cleare the incumbrance, muſt ouerthrow his eſtate, looſe his inheritance, and be vndone for euer. But this notwithſtanding, ſo the *Eſcheator* may haue his part, in the ſpoile, he careth not to vſe any indirect corruption. You of the Iurie therefore for the good of your ſelues and yours, carefully looke to the proceedings vſed in this caſe, and ſuch abuſe as you ſhall find therein, let it be preſented. And ſuch as ſhall bee found offendors, they ſhall know, that we haue lawes to puniſh them. For prooſe whereof, I would you could find out ſome, of whom there might be made an example: But if you will be content to let the *Eſcheator* alone, and not looke vnto his actions, he will bee contented by deceiuing you, to change his name, taking vnto himſelfe the two laſt ſyllables, only with the *Eſ* left out: and ſo turne *Cheter*.

We

We haue then an excellent *Officer*, surnamed the *Clarke* of the *Market*, concerning whose office, for mine owne part, I see not the necessitie thereof, considering the Iustices of peace in their seuerall limmits, are at euery Sessions to enquire of, and to punish all those abuses which are by the Clarke of the market continued, vuder shew of reformation. For he will come downe and call before him all waights and measures, and where a fault is found, there must a Fee be payd, which is deuided betwixt him and the Informer: So the offendor payes for his offence, to the end it might be continued, but not reformed. And thus the Clarke of the market by receiuing bribes, enricheth himselfe, by abusing his Maiesties lawes, and wronging his Subiects. It was once my hap to take a Clarke of the market in these trickes: But I aduanst him higher then his fathers sonne; by so much as from the ground to the toppe of the Pillorie. If you of the Iurie will therefore haue a care to find out these abuses, by Gods grace they shall not goe vnpunished. For we haue a *Coyfe*, which signifies a *Scull*: whereby in the execution of Iustice, wee are defended against all oppositions, bee they neuer so violent.

There is a certaine ruffling officer, which will seeme to command much by the authoritie of his Cõmission. And he wilbe known to be a Purueyor. Some of which officers, if they can find nothing to be dealing with, they will purucy mony out of your purses: if you will suffer them. But know there is no

money

mony to be purueyed, vnleſſe by the high way ſide, and any Purueyor that ſhall take ſuch courſe, is but in his paſſage, the high way to the *gallowes*.

But to ſpeake of that, which may by them bee lawfully done, admit a Purueyor commeth downe with Commiſſion, to take vp timber for the *Kings* vſe; What timber is it then that he muſt take: He cannot come and pull downe any timber in my houſe, what then? May he go into any of my woods which I purpoſe to preſerue, and there marke out of my beſt timber, and inforce me to ſuffer it to be felled, and carried away at the kings price? No, There is not any ſuch authoritie granted vnto him. But only thus, If I haue any timber felled, which I purpoſe to ſell: then may the Purueyor (the King having vſe of timber) come and make choiſe of what trees he will: For there is great reaſon, that in ſuch caſe the king ſhould firſt be ſerued. But if any of you do deſire to preſerue your timber growing, be not ſcared with a Purueyors warrant: Nor do not preſerue the ſtanding of your trees, by bribing any one of them. The dignitie of his Maieſties prerogatiue *Royall* is not vſed to enforce his ſubiects to indure wrong. But the ruſt being ſcoured off, which abuſed time, hath caſt vpon it, then will the glorie thereof ſhine in the perfection of an vncorrupted brightneſſe. You of the Iury therefore looke into the abuſes done by *Purueyors*, and preſent them.

Beſides theſe ſpoken of. There is alſo a Salt-peter man, whoſe Commiſſion is not to breake vp any

mans

mans houſe or ground without leaue. And not to deale with any houſe, but ſuch as is vnuſed for any neceſſarie imployment by the owner. And not to digge in any place without leauing it ſmooth and leuell: in ſuch caſe as he found it. This Salt-peter man vnder ſhew of his authoritie, though being no more then is ſpecified, will make plaine and ſimple people beleeue, that hee will without their leaue, breake vp the floore of their dwelling houſe, vnleſſe they will compound with him to the contrary. Any ſuch fellow, if you can meete withall, let his miſdemenor be preſented, that he may be taught better to vnderſtand his office: For by their abuſe the countrey is oftentimes troubled.

There is another trouble ſome fellowe called a *Concealer*, who is indeed little better then a plaine *Coſiner*, and would in many things be proued ſo, if well looked vnto. There be many Satute lawes to preuent the occurrence of his miſchiefe, giue him not a peny for any of his claimes or titles: For they are meere illuſions, and like himſelfe not worth any thing.

There be 4 ſorts of people, whom if you obſerue, you ſhall find not any of them to thriue. I haue alwayes known them little better then beggers, and may eaſily be knowne by theſe names. A *Concealer*, of whom I haue ſpoken: vnto whom is rightly ioyned a *Promooter*, a *Monopolitan*, and an *Alcumiſt*: The *Promooter* is both a *begger* and a *knaue*, and may, if well looked vnto, in the part of an *Informer*, (For many abuſes) by your information, ei-

ther be well punished or reformed. Their Office, I confesse, is necessarie: And yet it seldome happeneth, that an honest man is imployed therein: yet there is some hope, that by punishing their abuses, they may at the last bee made honest against their wils. In which imployment, you of the Iurie shall do well to vse a respective diligence.

As touching the *Monopolitane*, hee for the most part vseth at a deare rate to pay for his foolishnes: For some of that profession, haue bene so wise, to sell twentie, thirtie, or perhaps fortie pound land a yeare, and bestow most part of the money in purchasing of a *Monopolie*: Thereby to anoy and hinder the whole *Publicke Weale* for his owne priuat benefit: In which course he so well thriueth, as that by toyling some short time, either in *Starch*, *Vineger*, or *Aquauitæ*, he doth in the end thereby purchase to himselfe an absolute beggerie, and for my owne part, their purposes and practises considered, I can wish vnto them no better happinesse.

But then our golden Foole the *Alcumist*, he will be striuing to make Gold and Siluer, vntill he leaues himselfe not worth a pennies weight in either of both. I will not deny, but to vnderstand the nature, quintessence, & spirit of the *Minerals*, out of them to extract a *Metaphisicall* and *Paracelsian* manner of Physicke, may according to *art* be commendable, but by the studie of *Alcumie*, to desire to turne imperfect mettals into Gold and Siluer, such labour I account ridiculous: And oftentimes by those of this *Cunnicall Science* is Fellony comitted:

For

For by any imperfect commixture, to vse multiplication, either in Gold or Siluer, is directly Felonie by *Statute Law*: you of the Iurie are therefore to enquire of such offendors, and present them.

Because I must hast vnto an end, I wil request that you will carefully put in execution the *Statute* against *Vagarants*: Since the making whereof, I haue found fewer theeues, and the *Gaole* lesse pestered then before.

The abuse of *Stage players*, wherewith I find the Countrey much troubled, may easily be reformed: They hauing no Commission to play in any place without leaue: And therefore, if by your willingnesse they be not entertained you may soone be rid of them.

You are also concerning *Innes* and *Alehouses* diligently to obserue what the *Statute Lawe* determineth. As also to keep the orders set down by my *honorable predecessor*, concerning which, there is now by the appointment of the *Lords* of the *Counsel*, certaine *Briefes* to be deliuered vnto all the *Iustices* in their seuerall *Limmits*. And assuredly, if you of the Iurie, pettie *Constables*, *Chiefe Constables*, and *Iustices* of Peace, would together labour that the *Lawes* carefully *Enacted* for our good, might receiue a a due and iust execution, abuses would then bee reformed, *God* and our *King* faithfully serued and honored. And the tranquillitie of our *Publicke weale* preserued: which so great happinesse, that it may the better be accomplished, I would request, that all imployed in any place of authoritie, would haue an speciall care to suppresse that root of euill, from

whence all miſchiefs do proceed, and that is *Idleneſs*: For idle perſons are thoſe of whome the *Pſalme* ſpeaketh, *They doe wickedly all the day long, they imagine wickedneſſe vpon their beds, the imaginations of their hearts are euill continually*, and ſuch for the moſt part are all thoſe, giuen ouer to an idle diſpoſition: who by their wickednes do make themſelues worſe then beaſts: For, *Homo malus infinitis modis plura mala perpetrauerit quam beſtia, an euils man by an infinit manner committeth more euill then a beaſt.* For the reformation of which dangerous euill: you ſhall do well to haue an eſpeciall eie vnto the company that frequent *Tauerns, Innes, Alehouſes, Bowling-allies*, and ſuch like thriftleſſe places of reſort, where you ſhall find *Tradeſmen*, and *Artificers*, , which haue no other meanes whereby to liue, then onely the lawfull vſe of their *Science*, or *Manuall profeſſion*. And yet ſuch is their vnthriftie idleneſſe, as they will ſpend their time and labors profit, at ſome, or all the places before recited: whileſt their wiues and children ſit at home and weepe, wanting neceſſarie maintenance: Thoſe of ſuch condition, let them be enquired of and preſented: For were the Iuſtice of the Lawe rightly executed vppon ſuch offendors (they receiuing condigne puniſhment for their offence) would be inforced to betake themſelues vnto a better courſe of life, and liue as becometh good Subiects in the liſt of a more commended obedience.

Of that idle company, you ſhall alſo finde ſome of our accounted *Gallants* young *Gentlemen*, vp-

ſtarts,

ſtarts, perhaps honeſt yeomens ſonnes, that by their intemperate *Ryote*, loue to ſpend their inheritance before they come to inherit, and being queſtioned for their chargeable and expenſiue manner of liuing, they will brauely anſwer that they ſpend nothing but their owne: And will ſeeme as if they ſcorn'd to be reformed by *admonition* or *authority*. The law prouideth a courſe whereby to teach ſuch vain & idle *royoters* ſo to ſpend, that they may keepe their own: For when by their miſdemenor all their owne is ſpent; Then their next courſe is to liue vpon the goods of others: and then at laſt, ſuch Gallants turning ſtarke theeues, do make their laſt period at the *Gallowes*, reaping to themſelues, by an vntimely death, the fruit of idleneſſe.

There is alſo a ſort of idle ſeeming *Gentlemen*, whom if you do obſerue, you ſhall find them walking with a gray-hound in a ſlip, or a birding peece vpon their necke, and they forſooth will make a path ouer the *Statute Lawe*, and into any mans *Groundes*, *Lordſhippes*, or *Liberties*, paſſe and repaſſe at their pleaſure: As if it were lawfull for euerie Fellow to keepe a *Graye-hound*, and to hunt, when and where he liſteth, or as if a birding peece were no *Gunne*, and ſo not included in the Statute made againſt *Gunnes*.

But if you would finde out thoſe Fellowes, and preſent them, they ſhall be taught to knowe themſelues: And that the wiſedome of a *Kingdomes ſtate*, in the framing of a *Statute Law*, could not be deluded by a vaine and ſhallow brain'd idleneſſe of their

ridiculous Foolery. Let them be therfore punished whose misdemenor in this case offendeth.

The better to preuent the *Ryotous* expence of vnthriftie idlenesse, you shall do well to haue a speciall care vnto the *Statute* for *Apparell*, by the neglect whereof too much abuse is nourished.

As touching all the abuses last recited, haue great respect to punish one abuse, in which all our idle *Gallants* and disordered dissolutes do desire to swim, vntill themselues, and their whole *estate* do sinke, in the *Slymie dregs of Swinelike drunkennes*, to *drunkards* therefore haue especiall heed, you know the *Lawe* prouideth for their *punishmēt*, & were such *offenders* duly *presented*, *Indited*, *Fined*, & *imprisoned*, they may by such good meanes be in time haply *refined* from that *contagious euill*, their continuall amisse, beeing continually with *Iustice* punished, to the vtter suppressing of such vild occasion: From whence as frō *Hels* mouth flames forth, *Ryoats*, *murthers*, *man-slaughters*, *quarrels*, *fightings*, *whoredemes*, and *presumptuous blasphemies*, all proceeding from that sinke of sin, in whose sick healths is *dronke* the bodies *Surfiting*, and the *Soules damnation*. In this, as in all the rest of the abuses specified, vse your best indeauors for the furtherance of a setled *Reformation*, according to the *Lawes established*: For you must know, that *Vita & vigor Iuris, in executione consistit*, *The life and strength of the Laws consisteth in the execution of them*: For in vaine are iust lawes Inacted, if not iustly executed.

And now my louing *Countrey men*, because I would that all which I haue spoken, may receiue

a profitable remembrance. I will thus conclude, *Similes* and *Compariſons* doe beſt confirme our vnderſtanding :and do faſteſt cleaue vnto the memorie; my concluſion therefore, ſhall conſiſt vpon this one *Similitude.*

There was a certain man, who hauing a great account to make vnto a mightie *King*, made triall of his beſt Friends, that might accompany him, in that dangerous iourney, and not forſake him vntill his account were made. This man vpon his Inquiſition found one friend that would go with him a great part of the way, but then forſake him. And that was his (*Riches.*) Some other Friends he found that would goe with him vntill he came in ſight of the *Kings* pallace, but then they would alſo leaue him and beare him company no further, all theſe Friends were his *wife* and *children*, that would follow him to his graue. But at laſt, he found one Friend that would go with him into the preſence of the *King*, and not forſake him, vntill he had ſeene his account made, and for euer beare the greateſt part with him, either in woe, or happineſſe, and this Friend was his *Conſcience*; Deare Countrymen betwixt *God* and your *Conſciences* therefore, make your peace, for he is the *King*, vnto whom all of vs muſt make a ſtrickt account of all our actions done. This then conſidered, ſuch would be our care, as *God* and our *King* ſhould be obeyed, and our peace in this life, and in the world to come preſerued. Vnto which eternall grace be we all in *Ieſus Chriſt* committed.

FINIS.